



PATENT

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No.: 10/565,284

Confirmation No.: 7118

In re Application of:

MASARA NAKAKITA, *et al.*

Group Art Unit: 2627

Filed: January 20, 2006

Examiner: Carlos E. Garcia

For: SLIDER AND MAGNETIC DISK DEVICE USING THE SLIDER

APPLICANTS' COMMENTS ON
EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

US PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
Customer Service Window
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants hereby respond to the "examiner's statement of reasons for allowance"
appearing at page 2, paragraph 2, attached to the Notice of Allowance and Notice of
Allowability:

REMARKS

Allowed claims 1, 3, 5-14, 16, 18-27, 29 and 36-39 remain herein.

The “examiner’s statement of reasons for allowance” at page 2, paragraph 2, states that both Rajakumar (US 2003/0165031) and Chapin (US 5128822), as the closest references, disclose certain elements of “a negative presence utilization type of slider” quoting those elements virtually exactly from the first five subparagraphs of applicants’ allowed claim 1, but stating those elements are “as recited in claims 1, 14 and 27.”

However, those elements recited in the “examiner’s statement of reasons for allowance” do not exactly correspond to the language of the first five subparagraphs of applicants’ claims 14 and 27, which in relevant parts read as follows:

In applicant’s allowed claim 14: “the air inflow surface has a groove extending from and including a disk inner peripheral end toward a disk outer peripheral end of the air inflow surface, a bottom surface of the groove being lower in height than the air inflow surface relative to a surface opposite the disk-facing surface, the groove being parallel to and set back from the air flow incoming end, such that it does not contact an edge of the air flow incoming end.”

In applicant’s allowed claim 27: “the air inflow surface has a groove extending from and including a disk outer peripheral end toward a disk inner peripheral end of the air inflow surface, a bottom surface of the groove being lower in height than the air inflow surface relative to a surface opposite the disk-facing surface, the groove being parallel to and set back from the air flow incoming end, such that it does not contact an edge of the air flow incoming end.”

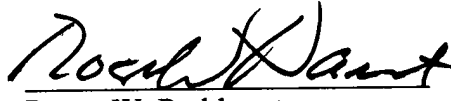
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Applicants agree that all of applicants' allowed claims, including claims 14 and 27, "are not anticipated by, nor made obvious over, the prior art of record," as the Examiner's reasons so conclude.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: March 19, 2010


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